

VZCZCXYZ0002
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHBO #8623 2622156
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 192156Z SEP 06
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8985
INFO RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 7112
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 8182
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ SEP LIMA 4236
RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA 9517
RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 4911
RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL 3689
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC
RHEHOND/DIRONDCP WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 008623

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/19/2016
TAGS: [KJUS](#) [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [CO](#)
SUBJECT: PROSECUTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE UNDER SCRUTINY

Classified By: Political Counselor John Creamer
Reasons: 1.4 (b) and (d)

SUMMARY

¶1. (C) Press revelations about a psychic on the payroll of the Prosecutor General's Office (Fiscalia) have generated press reports about Prosecutor General Iguaran's weak leadership and management, damaging his credibility and potentially affecting his ability to make principled decisions on controversial cases. Iguaran apologized for having the psychic on staff, admitted to poor judgment on personnel, and alluded to senior management changes in the near future. Deputy Fiscal Jorge Otalora denied accusations he leaked information about the psychic to deflect attention from his own alleged corrupt activities. End summary.

PSYCHIC IN FISCALIA'S PAYROLL

¶2. (C) Semana Magazine reported on September 11 that a psychic was working in the Fiscalia and had an all-access pass, armored car, and bodyguards. The psychic, Armando Marti, had apparently prepared a report that revealed a serious rift between Deputy Fiscal Jorge Otalora and the National Director of Prosecutors, abuse of telephone intercepts to develop negative information on officials within and outside the Fiscalia, allegations of the Deputy Fiscal's involvement in corruption, and serious irregularities in the work of the Secretary General.

SIPDIS

NEGATIVE REACTION UNDERMINES FISCAL'S AUTHORITY

¶3. (C) Inspector General (Procurador) Edgardo Maya told us on September 18 the information about the psychic and the internal rifts within the Fiscalia had severely harmed the institution as well as Iguaran's credibility. He said it would be harder for Iguaran to take principled decisions on high profile cases such as Jamundi, since his independence

and credibility were in question. Press comments emphasized the damage the story had done to Iguaran's reputation and said Iguaran would suffer from a perception he was a weak and ineffective manager.

FISCAL IGUARAN APOLOGIZES

14. (C) Iguaran apologized to the nation a week after the psychic story broke, claiming he had mistakenly trusted the persons around him. They had abused his confidence and had misled him. Iguaran voiced concern there was a conspiracy against him within the Fiscalia. He promised to take responsibility for his mistakes, acknowledged the need for changes, and alluded to shifts at the senior level.

CORRUPTION ALLEGATIONS BREWING

15. (C) Psychic Marti accused Deputy Fiscal Otalora of leaking the information to the press to cover up Otalora's own corruption; Marti implied his report had addressed Otalora's role in illegal activities. Marti said he had reportedly warned Iguaran of multiple corruption allegations against Otalora. Otalora denied Marti's accusations and claimed he was unaware of the psychic's work in the Fiscalia. Iguaran has not addressed Otalora's role in the scandal.
DRUCKER